

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2083 - SB 2159

March 21, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Classifies offenses of underage purchasing, possession, transportation, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, wines or beer, for those between 18 years of age and less than 21 years of age as Class C misdemeanors.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease State Revenues – Not Significant

Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant

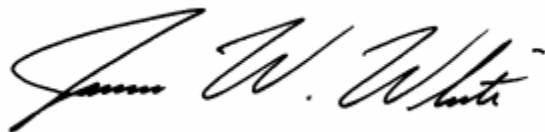
Increase Local Govt. Revenues – Net Impact – Not Significant

Assumptions:

- Under current law, offenses are a Class A misdemeanor and are punishable by 11 months, 29 days in jail and/or a fine not to exceed \$2,500. Class C misdemeanor provides for punishment of not greater than 30 days in jail and/or a fine not to exceed \$50.
- Since the fines are not to exceed \$50, the offenses can be prosecuted in municipal court and will provide a possible increase for local governments in revenue including court costs and litigation taxes.
- There will not be a sufficient number of prosecutions for local governments to experience a significant increase in revenues or expenditures.
- Prosecution may be transferred from General Sessions Court (county) to Municipal Court (city) and will result in a revenue decrease for county governments and a revenue increase in city governments' revenue.
- State revenue will decrease as a result of differences in the amount of litigation taxes paid.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "White" clearly distinguishable.

James W. White, Executive Director